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house where the Heber First-Sixth Ward now stands. After a few years there he attended Central School, a building located where the present Central School now stands. He graduated from the eighth grade and was considered a well-educated young man.

As a young fellow he helped his father with farming and the cattle business. In the summer his father had a sawmill, and young John would work there also. Later on, his folks built a store and a theater and he helped by carrying the hod for the entire job.

As a boy he liked baseball and became a fairly good player. He later worked on the Ontario Drain Tunnel, where the Park Utah mine at Keetley now is.

In 1903, when the telephone exchange was built at Heber, he found a job constructing the lines. That same year he went to St. Louis, Missouri, to work, staying there until the fall of 1904. He went to the World's Fair several times and had the pleasure of showing friends and relatives from Heber around the fair.

When he arrived home from St. Louis he stayed but a short time. There was a gold rush at Goldfield, Nevada, and there was much excitement. So, with Joe Averett and Louis Jasperson, they rigged up a sheep wagon and a team of horses and set out to seek their fortunes. This trek required 23 days before Goldfield was reached.

While working there, his father died. However, he never received word of his death until about sixty days later, because he was out prospecting for gold. As soon as he was notified he made preparations to return home.

After his return home from Nevada he

### JOHN MUIR TURNER

John Muir Turner was born December 27, 1877, at Heber, Wasatch County, Utah, son of John and Agnes Montgomery Turner. He was the eighth child of 12 children.

He received his education in a school-

farmed, helping to operate the theater, raised cattle, and worked in the sawmill. This work he continued until about 1915. Then he and his brother James went to Idaho, to the Raft River Valley. There he met his future wife, Anna Willmore. They were married in Logan, Utah, on December 29, 1916. This marriage was later solemnized in the Salt Lake Temple. To this couple were born three sons and two daughters.

After several years working at various jobs, he finally secured employment with the Bonneville Lumber Company in Heber. Later he became manager of this business when the former manager moved away. He worked there 12 years, and then they sold out to another concern. He continued with the new concern about 18 months.

During the depression years of the 1930s he started his own lumber yard business. This new venture was called the Turner Building Supply. The original store opened for business April 1, 1934, and the location was the old Joseph Hatch coal yard down by the railroad track. On July 1, 1942, the present store on Main Street was ready for business. Vernal, in addition to the one in Heber. These businesses are operated by his three sons.

He was active in his Church. He took great pride in being on the building committee of the First Ward chapel when it was remodeled and enlarged. Ground for this project was broken on April 15, 1952, and the building dedicated on March 11, 1953.

He was a charter member of the Heber Lions Club and one of the oldest key members in the international organization.

Over the years, John acquired many friends, both young and old. He lived a full, active life practically to the very end.

On March 20, 1954, John Muir Turner died in a Salt Lake City hospital following a two-month illness. His funeral services were held in the First Ward chapel on March 22, and he was buried in the cemetery at Heber.



ARTHUR AND EMILY  
ADELIA WATKINS



Arthur Watkins, son of John Watkins and Harriet Steel Watkins, pioneer settlers of Provo and Midway, was born in Provo, October 22, 1864. Soon after his birth his family moved to Midway, Wasatch County, where he grew to manhood. He married Emily Adelia Gerber, the youngest daughter of Dr. John and Ann Marie Ackert Gerber, also Wasatch County pioneers, March 19, 1886.

During his adult career in Wasatch County Arthur Watkins engaged in farming, lumber milling and mining activities. Prior to her marriage Mrs. Watkins was a stu-

BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

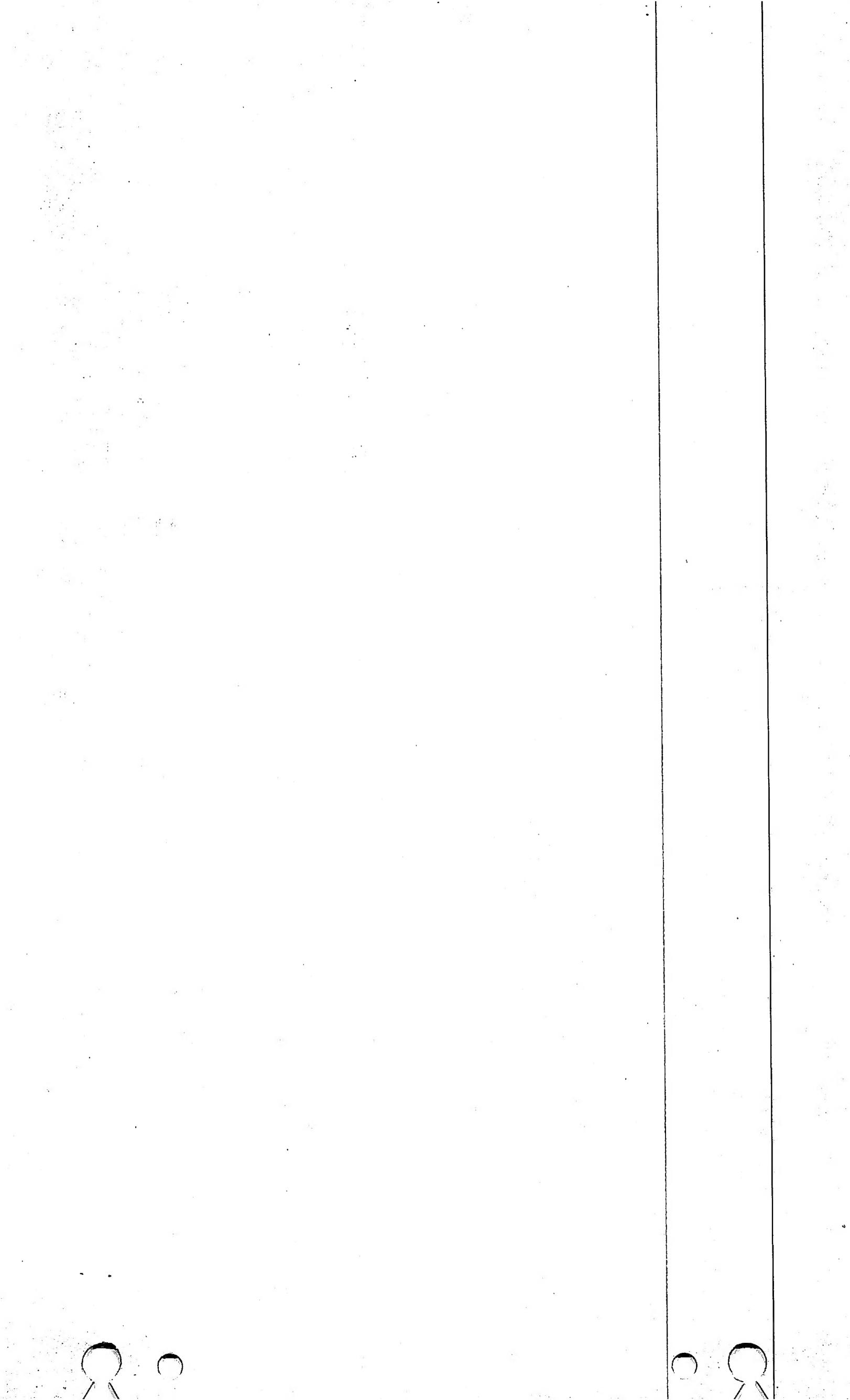
dent at Deseret University (later University of Utah) and later became a school teacher in Wasatch County. Her father died when she was nine years of age. Prior to her marriage she lived with her mother Ann Marie Ackert Gerber, who during most of her life in Wasatch County served the people as a nurse.

In 1897 the Arthur Watkins family moved to Uintah County to become one of the pioneer families of that area. When the Uintah Indian Reservation was opened for settlement in 1905 by white citizens, the family filed on homesteads in that area where they resided until their removal to Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. Watkins died in Los Angeles April 3, 1947. Arthur Watkins died during his 95th year at Glendale, California.

Born to Arthur and Emily Adelia Watkins were the following children: Arthur Vivian, John Franklin, Ethel, Nora, Harriet (died in infancy), LaPriel (died in infancy), Sterling (died in early youth) all born in Wasatch County; Avis and Lyle born in Uintah County.

A son, John Franklin, died at Bishop, California in 1957. Many of the descendants of Arthur and Emily Adelia Watkins now live in Southern California. Other members of the family are living in Utah and Washington, D.C.



## CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

*People, Places and Events*

When events occur for the first time or when people achieve new things there is usually popular acclaim to remember the events or the people. There are many memorable "firsts" in Wallsburg, including the following:

The first school house and church building was constructed inside the fort area and Mrs. Lucina M. Boren was the first school teacher. The first school house outside the fort was the home of Martin Ford, and the first regular school building was on the property of George L. Batty. Miss Josephine Wall was teacher in 1859. Teachers who came to these first schools lived in the homes of Jennie Allred, Susan Davis, Amber Ford and Mrs. John Graham.

Some of the first musicians that played for dances were William Bancroft, dulcimer; George Allred, Amber, Martin and Alfred Ford, James Wheeler and William Davis who played the violin, organ and guitar.

Mrs. Polly Mecham was the first doctor in Wallsburg and used herbs as well as faith and prayer in caring for the sick. Mrs. Annie Mecham, wife of John L. Mecham, also was an early doctor in the area.

The first irrigation ditches were made by W. J. Boren and William Haws.

The first post office was directed by William E. Nuttall and the mail was carried on horseback and carriage by Dixon Greer. The mail route from Wallsburg was to "String Town" or what was later Harry Watson's farm near Charleston. Other postmasters included S. D. Greer, George Dabling, George P. Garff, Della Mecham, Orpha Wall and Alice C. Graham. Mail carriers included Abram Penrod, Elijah Davis, Ray Boren, Ellis Boren, Willard Davis, John Wall and Roy V. Loertscher.

The first manufacturing was the production of shingles. Owner of the first shingle mill was William Nuttall. John Parcell, Enoch Richens and Elijah Davis also owned an early mill. There were many good lumber mills and carpenters, including William Ford and Martin Ford Jr., who were especially skilled at manufacturing caskets.

The first piece of machinery brought to Round Valley was a mower and reaper owned by Martin Ford, Sr.

The first shoemakers were W. J. Boren, William Haws and Luke Burdick. Mr. Boren was also a skilled cabinetmaker. Early stores were owned by Dick Camp, James Allred, Jacob Harris and Dixon Greer.

The first saw mill was owned by William Penrod, W. J. Boren and James Wheeler. William G. Nuttall and Daniel Bigelow also owned mills.

## PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS

Martin Ford and William Stoker brought the first cook stoves to the valley. Prior to this all the cooking had been done in fireplaces. Cooking utensils consisted of a kettle on three legs, a bake oven and a deep frying pan 4 Aug. 1864.

Susann Wall, Enoch Gurr and John C. Greer were the first white children to be born in Round Valley 24 Feb. 1865.

Some of the first dramatists in Round Valley were Ethan A. Duke, Joseph Kerby, Polly Allred, Belle Penrod, Frank Allred, Mr. and Mrs. How Duke, Ezra Greer, Parley Ford, Earl Ford, Mark Kerby, William Ford, Gertrude Ford, John Whiting, Alfred Ford, Leone Allen, Myrtle Ford and some others.

## SCHOOLS IN WALLSBURG

A combination church house and school building constructed of logs plastered with mud was the scene of the first classwork in Wallsburg. Mrs. Lucina M. Boren taught in the small building which was located inside the fort walls.

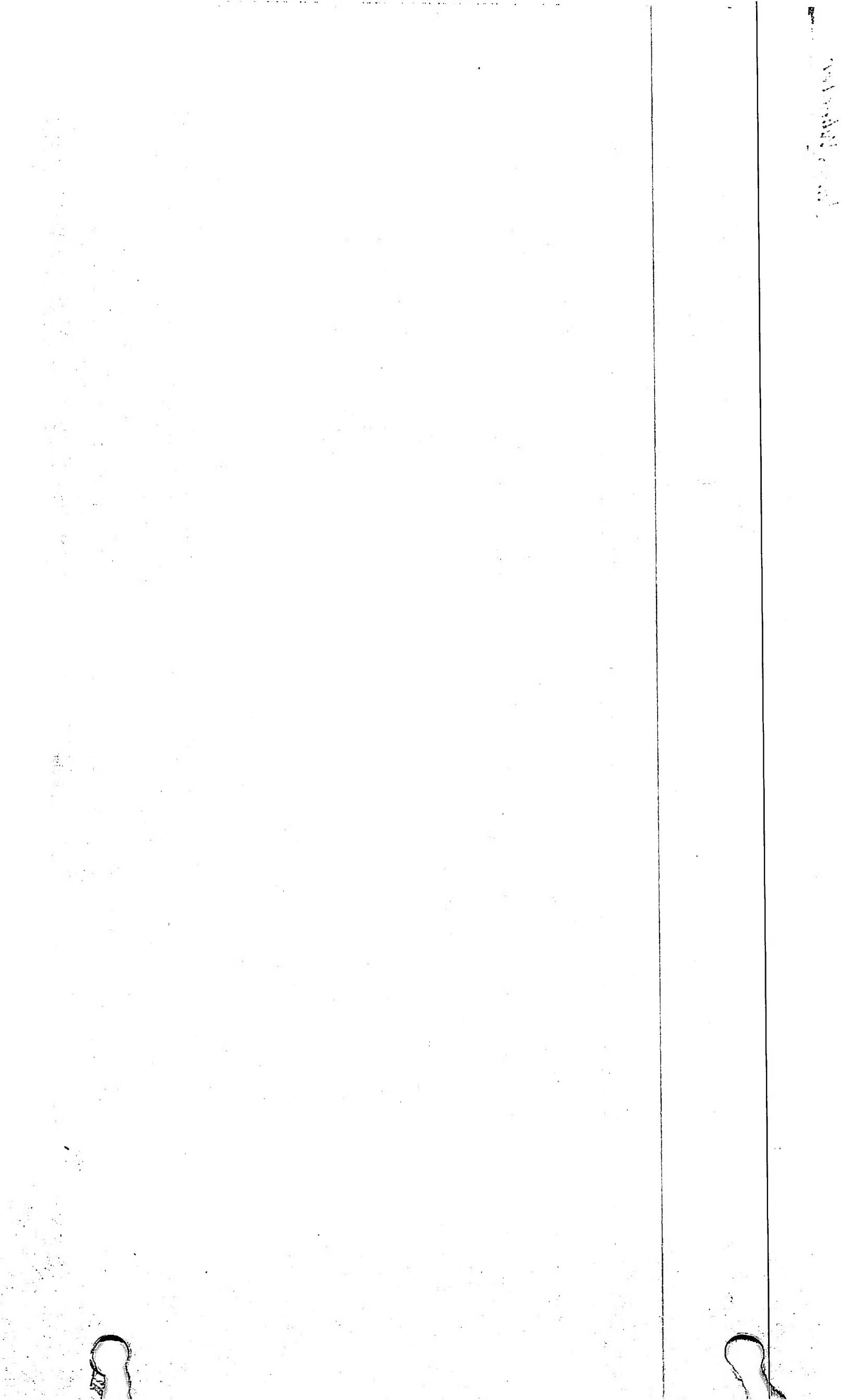


The Wallsburg School constructed in 1904 from red sandstone and still in use.

When the community expanded outside the fort, Martin Ford's home was used as the school and Aaron Thomas, a Christian minister, served as the teacher.

Later, a combination school house and dance hall was built on property owned by George L. Batty. A second school house was built a few years later and boasted two rooms of red sandstone construction. The present school was built in 1904 by Edd Snyder, and also was of red sandstone. When the building was constructed the town was bonded for \$4,000, but the indebtedness was soon paid off and \$1,500 in cash was turned over to the Wasatch County School District when Wallsburg District was discontinued and all county schools were consolidated.

Lucina Mecham Boren began teaching in the winter of 1865 and these teachers followed: Josephine Wall Rogers, Dixon Hamlin Greer, Richard Cecil Camp, George Pickup, F. W. Hethenbrook, Aaron Thomas, all before 1875. Then D. Camp Wray, Richard J. Nuttall, Ada Glenn,



## SAMUEL JOSEPH WING



Samuel Joseph Wing, son of Matthias and Elizabeth Wing, was born in Pike County, Illinois, on August 13, 1842, the second son.

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## HEBER BIOGRAPHIES

in a family of four boys. His mother was the daughter of Samuel Chenoweth, a Virginian.

Samuel attended Whitehall College, Green County, Illinois. When 17 years of age he went to the lumber camps of Wisconsin to keep books for Phimias Wright, a wealthy sawmill operator. His intentions were to earn the means to attend medical school and get his degree as an M.D. When winter closed the sawmill he accepted the position as school teacher. The daughter of his former employer, Elizabeth Jane Wright, was teaching in the same school. He was attracted to her, and they were married June 24, 1860.

Through the efforts of LDS missionaries, Samuel accepted the gospel and was baptized March 2, 1862, and forthwith prepared that spring to join the saints in the Rocky Mountains, hoping to acquire land, build up with the Church and state. They arrived in Salt Lake City in early September, 1862.

Cities and towns were being established in Utah, and the leaders were calling for able teachers to go to these new settlements to teach science, philosophy, religion and music.

Brigham Young called Samuel Joseph Wing to go to Draper, 17 miles south of Salt Lake City, to assist John R. Parks, who was at that time principal of the school. A friendship grew between these teachers which lasted throughout their lives.

John R. Parks was called to be president of the University of Utah, 1868, and Samuel J. Wing was called to establish a school at Fort Harriman. There he built a home and married as his second wife, Harriet Stocking. In September, 1875, another call was made from Brigham Young to move to Heber City to open a school for the benefit of the young people whose parents were settling in the upper Provo Valley, at which time he purchased a farm about four miles from Heber and moved the first wife and family there.

He was instructed to teach music and to take charge of the music in the public gatherings. This appointment came on recommendation of his friend, John R. Parks.

In the fall of 1876 he was called to fill a mission for his Church and served in his native state of Illinois.

In the year 1901, when the Latter-day Saints were colonizing in Canada, he again went forth as a pioneer of a new country, hoping to acquire something for his old age, having lost everything excepting a small home at American Fork during the depression, and hard times for the sheepmen, when nearly all who were engaged in the sheep business failed.

He first settled in Raymond, Alberta, later moving to Taber. His age and adverse circumstances were against him, and after 13 years he returned to Utah, after the two youngest girls were married, and the burial of his last wife. He then lived with his daughter, Janet Wing Rooker, in Albion, Idaho.

During the fall of 1915 he secured a job as weighmaster at the weighing station for beets at Brigham City, residing at the home of his stepson, Moroni Duke, after which he lived in the home of his daughter, Sarah Alice Wing Jacobs, at Sugar City, Idaho, where he passed away on January 23, 1918. Burial was at Heber City.

When asked to write something of himself to be published in the "Owl," the Wing family publication, he wrote: "I am a teacher, shepherd and farmer. Am still active in Sabbath School and MIA and other organizations among the young people, (age 70). I have spent my life pioneering. Have made no great noise in the world, but have kept busy doing all the good and as little harm as circumstances and ability would permit."

Children: Amy and Elvira (twins), Amanda, Samuel, Sarah Alice, Jane Elizabeth, Moriah, Joseph Samuel, Moriah, Janet Elizabeth, Rose Mary, Rosabell, Geneva and Golda Ina.

